

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:
a color converting section that converts three primary colors of colors supplied for each pixel of a manuscript image into plural types of color data related to a complementary color;
a region identifying section that identifies a region for each pixel based on the three primary colors of the colors supplied for each pixel of the manuscript image;
a setting section that sets a value of sharpness setting;
a storage section that stores a filter coefficient that consists of a basic coefficient and a differential coefficient for each value of sharpness setting;
a generating section that reads out from the storage section the filter coefficient based on the value of the sharpness setting set by the setting section, and generates plural types of matrix shaped filters, each of which corresponds to an area identified by the region identifying section according to the read out filter coefficient;
a selecting section that selects one of the plural types of matrix shaped filters generated by the generating section according to the identification result from the region identifying section; and
a filter section that subjects color data acquired from the color converting section to a filtering process by using the matrix shaped filter selected by the selecting section, wherein a filter coefficient stored in the storage section is configured in size that corresponds to approximately 1/4 of the filter size,
wherein three primary colors of the color is red (R), green (G), and blue (B), and plural types of color data are cyan (C), magenta (M), yellow (Y), and black (K).

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising the steps of:
converting three primary colors of colors supplied for each pixel of a manuscript image into plural types of color data related to a complementary color;
identifying a region for each pixel based on the three primary colors of the colors supplied for each pixel of the manuscript image;
reading out a filter coefficient based on a value of sharpness setting based on the filter coefficient that consists of a basic coefficient and differential coefficient for each value of sharpness setting stored in a storage section; and
generating plural types of matrix shaped filters, each of which corresponds to the region identified according to the read out filter coefficient;
selecting one of the plural types of matrix shaped filters generated according to the identification result of the region; and
subjecting color data acquired from a color converting section to a filtering process by using the matrix shaped filter selected,
wherein a filter coefficient stored in the storage section is configured in size that corresponds to approximately 1/4 of the filter size,
wherein three primary colors of the color is red (R), green (G), and blue (B), and plural types of color data are cyan (C), magenta (M), yellow (Y), and black (K).

7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
image readout means for reading three primary colors of colors for each pixel of a manuscript image;
a color converting section that converts the three primary colors of colors read out by the image readout means into plural types of color data related to complementary colors;
a region identifying section that identifies a region of each pixel based on the three primary colors of the colors supplied for each pixel of the manuscript image;
a setting section that sets a value of sharpness setting;
a storage section that stores a filter coefficient that consists of a basic coefficient and a differential coefficient for each value of sharpness setting;

a generating section that reads out from the storage section a filter coefficient based on the value of sharpness setting set by the setting section, and generates plural types of matrix shaped filters that corresponds to a region identified by the region identifying section according to the read out filter coefficient;

a selecting section that selects one of plural types of matrix shaped filters generated by the generating section according to the identification result from the region identifying section;

a filter section that subjects color data acquired from the color converting section to a filtering process by using the matrix shaped filter selected by the selecting section; and

image forming means for forming an image on an image forming medium based on color data outputted from the filter section,

wherein a filter coefficient stored in the storage section is configured in size that corresponds to approximately 1/4 of the filter size,

wherein three primary colors of the color is red (R), green (G), and blue (B), and plural types of color data are cyan (C), magenta (M), yellow (Y), and black (K).

10 -11. (Canceled)

12. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 3, wherein the filter size is nxn , where n is an odd number.

13. (New) The image processing method of claim 6, wherein the filter size is nxn , where n is an odd number.

14. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 9, wherein the filter size is nxn , where n is an odd number.